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- (1) Consists of a narrative description addressing employee performance, accomplishments and contributions during that appointment; and
- (2) May serve as documentation and justification for recognition under 5 U.S.C. chapter 45.

§ 9901.409 Monitoring and developing performance.

- (a) In applying the requirements of the performance management system and its implementing issuances and policies, supervisors will—
- (1) Monitor the performance of their employees and their contribution to the organization;
- (2) Provide ongoing (i.e., regular and timely) feedback to employees on their actual performance with respect to their performance expectations, including one or more interim performance reviews during each appraisal period; and
- (3) Document at least one interim performance review. Documented interim reviews are not required for overall periods of performance of less than 180 days.
- (b) Developing performance is integrated with the performance management process and is a shared responsibility of management and employees. Developing performance includes but is not limited to—(1) Coaching and mentoring employees;
- (2) Reinforcing strengths and addressing weaknesses; and
- (3) Discussing employee development opportunities.

§ 9901.410 Addressing performance that does not meet expectations.

- (a) If at any time during the appraisal period a supervisor determines that an employee's performance is not meeting expectations, the supervisor will—
- (1) Identify and communicate to the employee the specific performance deficiencies that require improvement;
- (2) Consider the range of options available to address the performance deficiency, including remedial training, improvement periods, reassignment, oral warnings, letters of counseling, written reprimands, or adverse action (including a reduction in rate of

basic pay or pay band or a removal); and

- (3) Take appropriate action to address the deficiency, taking into account the circumstances, including the nature and gravity of the unacceptable performance and its consequences.
- (b) Adverse actions taken based on unacceptable performance and/or conduct will be taken in accordance with the provisions in 5 U.S.C. chapter 75 or other appropriate procedures if not covered by chapter 75, such as procedures for National Guard Technicians under 32 U.S.C. 709(f).

§ 9901.411 Appraisal period.

- (a) Except as provided in paragraphs (a)(1) through (3) and (b) of this section, the appraisal period will be October 1 to September 30.
- (1) The appraisal period may begin after October 1 and end after September 30 for newly converted groups of employees;
- (2) The appraisal period may begin after October 1 for employees who move to an NSPS position from a non-NSPS position after that date; and
- (3) The appraisal period may end between July 3 and September 30 for employees receiving early annual recommended ratings.
- (b) If, by the end of the appraisal period, an employee has not met the minimum period of performance, management may extend the appraisal period provided such extensions do not—
- (1) Delay the payout for the applicable pay pool; or
- (2) Extend beyond the rating of record effective date.
- (c) The effective date of ratings of record will be January 1, except for additional ratings of record as described in §9901.412(b)(2).
- (d) The effective date of a rating of record described in §9901.412(b)(2) is the date the rating is final, as described in paragraph (g) of §9901.412.

§ 9901.412 Rating and rewarding performance.

- (a) Forced distribution of ratings (setting pre-established limits for the percentage or number of ratings that may be assigned at any level) is prohibited.
 - (b) An appropriate rating official—